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GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1837.

Landscape Gardening.

(Concluded)

In forming plantations of trees and shrubs, so as to produce a pleasing landscape effect, few rules can be given which would apply generally. The difference of natural situation, and of aspect, and the various features of different grounds, would preclude the attempt of giving minute directions suitable alike for all situations. There are, however, many rules which may frequently apply, and which, by the aid of a moderate judgment, may be adopted or rejected as circumstances dictate. And there are a few which are in a greater or less degree adapted to all cases.

In grounds of any considerable extent, the view of the whole should never be taken in at once; but it should be so divided into different scenes or compartments, which may be bounded by trees, that only a small part is visible at first to the spectator; but as he advances, new and varied prospects open upon him, so that he is agreeably surprised to find, that what at first seemed to terminate his view, only served to introduce him to new beauties.

The same or similar scences should never be twice presented to the eye; hence there should be as great variety of objects introduced as is possible. Sometimes the walk should be densely bordered or overhung with foliage; at others it should open upon beautiful or extensive prospects; one while it may lead beside a running stream, at another it may present "cascades, rocks and caves."

But variety should never be introduced at the expense of order, or proper relation between parts; but the different scenes should follow each other in natural and pleasing succession. The spectator should never be startled or taken suddenly by surprise, for that is the lowest kind of art. He should not be led from the flower garden to the stately forest, without passing through the intermediate grades; the level, the hilly, the smooth, the rocky, the chaste and finished, the wild and rude, should not follow each other at random or so as to produce violent contrasts, but by free and natural succession.

A frequent error in landscape gardens, is a multiplicity and confusion of objects. So many things are crowded together, that the spectator does not know to which to direct his attention first. The walks are often so numerous and so intricate, that they only serve to perplex. This may be easily avoided by adopting as a rule, that there shall be but one principal or leading walk throughout the whole. It may, by easy curves, be conducted in sight of every material object of view, and return finally to the place of entrance. In this way the same scene need never be exhibited twice. From this main walk there may be branches, to exhibit different scenes in detail; but it ought to be an invariable rule, that these episodal walks should never be one half the width of the principal walk, and should always branch off nearly at right angles from it, so that a stranger may never mistake one of them for the main walk. Where flowers are introduced they should commonly be in beds near the walk, while the taller shrubs and trees should be placed back more at a distance.

At favorable points, and those only, should the view be left open for more distant scenes. Sometimes by a judicious arrangement, the same objects seen from different places, may be made to present quite different aspects by appearing to group differently. The walk should be so directed as not to exhibit these views except at the most advantageous points. A bend in a walk should always exist from some cause either real or apparent. An apparent one may always be produced by groups of trees, appearing to require it, where no real one exists.

Architectural and other ornaments may be introduced, according to the means of the proprietor. When properly distributed they add much to the effect. Seats and arbors should be placed at points affording interesting views, alcoves and rotundas on eminences, and hermitages in secluded places. Foot bridges are always pleasing where there are streams. Fountains are going out of use, though we think without sufficient reason. In more frequented grounds, such as public squares in towns, we think them particularly appropriate. We would not, however, propose even for these, such expensive fountains as are frequently seen in Europe, where water is poured forth in immense volumes in marble basins, amid tritons and sea horses, and cars. A single streak of water would be a more pleasing object. A late writer thus speaks of a simple fountain in Marseilles in France. "It is a large basin of water elevated five or six feet, and handsomely sodded around; from the centre shoots up to a great height, a simple, delicate, silvery jet. I have seen the splendid fountains in the portico of St. Peters at Rome, but they did not affect me with half the pleasure that was given by this simple small stream amid the green well arched trees."

We shall conclude this article with a few remarks on planting the grounds in front of mansions and private country dwellings, a subject in which all should be interested. Few are able to devote much ground or much expense in extensive ornamental plantations; but all may decorate the immediate vicinity of their residences.

The house should be situated at some distance from the road, which distance should be greater or less according as the house is large or small, and it should be on a moderate rise of ground. There should be a spacious open lawn or grass ground in front, which should be unoccupied by any objects except an occasional small group of trees, and these should be placed a little on one side or the other, leaving the centre open. The front of the house, especially if it be of finished architecture, should be uncovered, or nearly so; while the other sides may be planted with thick groups of trees which may extend towards the public road, widening as they approach it, and contracting towards the house. The best view of the surrounding grounds should never be displayed until reaching the house. If it is situated on an eminence, the back as well as front view may be exhibited to great advantage, and the effect will be heightened if a view of water can be then enjoyed. Limited prospects and neighboring buildings not worthy of notice, may be concealed by plantations of trees. The appearance of distance may be increased by planting trees of dark green and large dense foliage on the foreground, and those of light and airy foliage in the distance; this will produce the same effect as shades in a landscape picture. Trees and shrubs in front of the house should be planted and pruned so as to present a chaste and neat appearance; imitations, therefore, of the wilder scenes of nature, such as rocks, cascades, old trees, and festoons of climbing plants, should be situated back and more remote.

The accompanying plan is of such a place as any farmer in comfortable circumstances is supposed to be able to possess, and only represents the ground in front of the house, as few would wish to undertake more. It is not given as a model, for it doubtless might be varied in most cases to advantage, but in order to represent the usual disposition of trees in groups and masses; and to show that the mere planting of a few trees may be made to add much to the appearance of country dwellings.

One of the most common errors which we have observed in planting about houses, is that of placing trees in straight rows, without any regard to the stiffness it produces. A less frequent error is the opposite extreme; an excess of irregularity is introduced, and a tedious monotony is produced by this indiscriminate mixture. Sometimes we see a large lawn in front of the house, with a line of shrubs and trees running round it, just broad enough to admit a gravel walk winding through it, which by many short irregular twists and turns, opens alternately upon the lawn and boundary fence, thus continually presenting the same thing over and over without any variation, and producing a sort of *uniform irregularity*. Walks perfectly straight would be much better, for then there would be no failure by attempting to accomplish too much.

In conclusion, we would remark, that our principal object has been to call attention to this interesting subject. We would not wish our readers to follow implicitly any rules laid down here or elsewhere, but to cultivate their own taste and use their own judgment. Although we have but few instances of fine landscape gardening in this country, yet an inexhaustible store of ideas may be derived from the beautiful and ever varying natural scenery which our country so richly affords. Much, too, may be learned from some of the excellent works which have appeared on the subject. If we have succeeded in drawing the attention of our readers to these, we shall consider our efforts as not in vain.

The "Stretches."

This is the name given by a contributor to a late No. of the Cultivator to a disease which has been noticed among sheep, but which has hitherto been nameless. Many of the cases which had fallen under the notice of the writer in that journal had proved fatal in from two to eight days after the attack; and where not fatal, were seriously injurious to their general health, and consequently to the quantity and quality of the wool. We have noticed the complaint referred to, having within a year or two had three or four sheep thus attacked, though in no case has it proved fatal in our flock. It occurs only in the winter, and we have attributed it to costiveness produced by want of water and green food. The name given the disease is exactly indicative of its effect on the animal; producing dislike to food, uneasiness, and a continual inclination to extend the fore and hind feet as far as possible, in the same manner the operation of stretching is performed by a horse or a dog. The true remedy, or rather preventive, would undoubtedly be a supply of green food; but we have never found any thing more necessary than a plentiful supply of salt, to remove the disease at once. The writer in the Cultivator recommends a spoonful of castor oil, to be given the sheep, repeating, we presume, the dose, at suitable intervals, till the disease is removed.

Wheat.

At the late meeting of the British association, Mr. Richardson, the enterprising traveler, and the writer of

several valuable works on the natural history of North America, stated that about Hudson's Bay, wheat ripened in seventy days from the time of sowing; and Humboldt asserts that only ninety days are required, in South America. Here, what is called winter wheat, requires ten months, and sometimes employs twelve, in a single crop; and spring wheat is rarely cut short of six months from the time of sowing. Cannot this period be shortened? We think so, by the introduction of wheat from the point of the farthest north where it is produced in perfection, and then by great care in selecting the earliest plants for seed, a constitutional tendency to early ripening would be created. There can be no doubt that the seeds of a plant early arrived at maturity, seek to become so likewise when sown; and that even under unfavorable circumstances, it requires successive generations to cause it to recede from the condition of the parent. It is well known that winter wheat sown in the spring will not arrive at maturity the same season; if it would, a great obstacle to the culture of wheat in some sections of our country would be done away; certainly in those places where fall sown wheat is liable to be frozen out during our severe winters. We understand that some experiments have been made to do away the obstacles to raising winter wheat when sown in the spring, and that the results were very satisfactory. It is to be regretted that no account of these experiments have been laid before the public, and we hope if this notice should meet the eye of any one acquainted with the process adopted, they will at once give this journal a history of the proceeding, with its success or failure. There can be no doubt, we think, but that wheat, mixed up with a small quantity of earth or sand, and slightly moistened with water, and prepared the fore part of winter by placing it where it could be at such a temperature that active vegetation could not commence, but the wheat remain as late sown wheat sometimes does, without sprouting until spring, would, if sown early in the spring before it sprouted, produce a crop as surely as the ordinary spring wheat, and with this advantage, that the crop would possess all the qualities of the best winter wheat. If some such method could be adopted, combining the qualities of winter wheat, with the certainty of spring wheat, a great step in the prosperity of many parts of our country would be gained.

Rock Salt.

We remember the time when Mr. Jefferson's assertion of the existence of a mountain of rock salt in the newly acquired territory of Louisiania, furnished abundant matter of mirth to those who disapproved of the purchase by that statesman of the immense region west of the Mississippi. Examination has shown that Jefferson was right; some of the government exploring parties, in their visits to the Camanches and Caddoes on the head of the Red river, found that one of the branches of that river flows for a considerable distance between lofty and precipitous banks of pure rock salt. Rock salt has not hitherto been known to exist in the state of Missouri, but it appears that this indispensable article is about to be added to the inexhaustable quantity of mineral riches that state already possesses in her coal, iron and lead mines. At the Saline reservation on Salt river, now owned by Dr. Ely and one or two other gentlemen, an Artesian well for the purpose of procuring salt water, has been sunk to the depth of 300 feet. For *sixty feet of this distance the augur passed through solid rock salt.* Here is a supply for the immense population destined at no great distance of time to throng the valley of the father of rivers.

Skinless Oats.

Extract of a letter from a subscriber to the Genesee Farmer at Drummondville, U. C.:—I am glad to have the opportunity of requesting you to call upon such of your subscribers as have cultivated the skinless oats, since 1834, to communicate through your publication what has been the result. In the Genesee Farmer for July and October, 1834, very encouraging accounts are given of the culture of this grain; but I regret to state that my experience has not been so favorable. I sowed last spring upon about a quarter of an acre, seed which had been carefully picked by hand, and in which, consequently, there was no mixture. The growth was vigorous, and as stated by Mr. Thorp, (Oct.) the oats ripened earlier than the common oat; but on thrashing, the return was not above half a bushel; though the land had been well manured the preceding spring for corn and potatoes, and the rest of the field yielded at the rate of 34 bushels per acre of barley, of the first quality produced in this neighborhood.

"I have seen somewhere in the Genesee Farmer, a statement of one thousand bushels [of what?*] produced from one acre. Is this well authenticated? Few people will believe it. I had, in 1835, a produce of 300 bushels per acre; last year only 200, under the same favorable ciacumstances as to manure and cultivation."

* If the writer alludes to Ruta Baga, we have no doubt but 1000 bushels, and more, have been raised on an acre.

[*From the New England Farmer.*]

New England Agriculture.

I propose to sketch some very general views of the Agriculture of the Northern and Western parts of the country, which I have had recently the gratification of visiting. With much of New-England, I have been long acquainted; and this season has afforded me the opportunity of seeing some of the Western parts of New-York, the North-Western and central parts of Pennsylvania, and parts of Michigan, and Ohio, not under all the advantages, which I could have desired; but with as many as usually fall to the lot of travellers in their transit over the country, by the usual public conveyances.

There is a strong impression prevailing, and not without plausible reasons, that the Agriculture of New-England is on the decline; I do not mean in respect to the character, but the extent of the cultivation. Much less land in proportion to the population is under cultivation than was under cultivation twenty years ago; though in respect to the modes of cultivation, and the utensils employed, especially the plough, great improvements have been made. The amount of crops, from the same extent of land, has been greatly increased, and they are more carefully husbanded than formerly. Yet it is a discreditable fact, that New-England is dependant upon other parts of the country for the common necessaries of life; and has little to export, excepting perhaps a small amount of beef; and the amount of this article, which New-England exports, does not exceed that which is brought here alive from other parts of the country.

Maine, with an admirable wheat soil in many parts, grows comparatively little; and wheat flour with the Rochester, N. Y. brand upon it, is to be found far in the interior, a hundred miles, it may be, from the sea coast. Little Indian corn is produced, and small quantities of rye. Oats are raised in considerable amount; but not more than is demanded for home consumption. Excellent potatoes are produced; and of these as well as of hay, some are sent to the capital of New-England, and there is an occasional shipment to the Southern cities. A good many cattle are driven from Maine to Brighton and likewise into the British provinces; and, as grass fed cattle, they are of a good description; but agriculture in Maine, though the State, notwithstanding its climate, possesses in this respect great advantages, cannot be set down as a primary interest of the State. The fisheries, and especially the lumber business, are the great objects of pursuit.

New-Hampshire is even in this matter, behind Maine, and this from the natural condition of the soil. To a stranger unacquainted with the hardihood and spirit of the people, it is matter of difficult solution how the inhabitants of this State are sustained. There are it is true, some sunny spots. Some extremely well managed and beautiful farms are to be met with in Greenland near Portsmouth. There is some good cultivation near Exeter and in Salisbury on the Merrimack. There is excellent, I may justly call it, pattern farming among the Shakers at Canterbury and Enfield, where all that persevereing industry and untiring labor, applied with skill and judgment can accomplish, seems to have been done. There is excellent farming in that part of New-Hampshire, which lies upon Connecticut river; at Walpole, Charlstown, Claremont, Lebanon, Haverhill, and Lancaster. But a considerable portion of this State is doomed to perpetual unfruitfulness; is covered with mountains of granite, which defy all cultivation and subject to late vegetation in the Spring and early Autumnal frosts, discouraging to the enterprise and often fatal to the labor of the husbandman. Indian Corn is in most parts of the State a precarious crop. Wheat, in those parts of the State where it is at all cultivated, has for three or four years, been much cut off by the grain worm. Rye is in no part of New-England a large crop and this too, has suffered severely from the same pest. Some small amount of cattle are raised, but the severity and length of the winters make this an expensive process.—On some of the Connecticut river lands the crops of oats have been abundant, in some instances rising to ninety bushels to the acre; but nothing like this is to be generally calculated upon and hardly an approach to the necessary supply of bread stuff is at any time produced in the State. There are some valuable intervale lands near the head waters of the Saco, which present favorable examples of good cultivation; but they are quite limited. Considerable portions of the State are well adapted to the growth of wool; and at present New-Hampshire may boast of some as well managed flocks; and the production of some as fine wool as any part of the world can furnish.

Vermont is, undoubtedly, the best as it is the most exclusively Agricultural State in New-England. The Indian corn crop in Vermont, is, however, a very precarious crop on account of the climate; and it produces at present, comparatively little wheat. Wheat was formerly cultivated in Vermont wth much success, but for various reasons the cultivation for a few years past has fallen off. Wool is now the great object of attention, and the sheep husbandry is pursued with eminent skill and advantage. Vermont likewise may boast of some of the finest dairies in the country; and a large amount of butter and cheese are sent out of the State. The town of Barnet, on the banks of the Connecticut, has been long and deservedly celebrated for its careful cultivation and excellent dairy produce. The Agriculture of the towns on the Western side of the mountains, and on the lake shore is very superior.

The Agriculture of Massachusetts, is with few exceptions, in a comparatively humble state. Of bread stuff, it produces but a small part of its necessary supply. Of wheat, a very small amount is raised. Of rye, much more than of wheat, but the amount is not large. Indian corn is more largely cultivated, but the farmers, who produce more than five hundred bushels per year, are a small number. Barley is cultivated to some extent in some parts of the State; in others the cultivation has been abandoned on account of the grain worm, believed to be the same by which the wheat has been cut off, but this fact is not as yet ascertained. Oats are a small crop, and great quantities of horse feed, oats, corn, and hay are imported into the sea ports and their vicinity; a considerable amount of broom corn is raised; and the brush is manufactured and sent into different parts of the Union; and the hops grown in this State, Vermont and New-Hampshire, form in some years a notable article for exportation. Considerable beef is fattened in Massachusetts; and Worcester and Berkshire counties especially, are extensively engaged in the business of dairying. A large amount of wool, and some of the finest qualities are grown in this State. The culture of the mulberry and the feeding of silkworms are begining to be objects of attention. Some hemp and tobacco are raised, but the cultivation is quite limited. Massachusetts however, though highly spirited, enterprising, and liberal in her agricultural improvements by means of well managed societies liberal donations from the State, and disinterested efforts of many eminent individuals, has comparatively little agricultural wealth; the farms are generally small, and in many cases cultivated as an appendage to a trade, profession, or some commercial pursuit.

Rhode Island is essentially a manufacturing and commercial community. With the exception of a few favored spots, the soil is sterile and hard of cultivation. The Island itself, from which the State derives its name is singularly beautiful in its posi-

tion and aspect, in most cases, of a strong and productive soil, and having singular advantages for obtaining manure on account of its proximity to the sea. Much sea grass, rock weed, and kelp are obtained, and in some places fish, the munhaden, which are taken in great abundance, are freely and successfully used. With the exception however, of the product of potatoes, and especially of onions, which it grows to a large extent, the State has no agricultural produce to export; and is almost wholly dependant on other places for its supply of bread.

Connecticut likewise is a manufacturing State; and agriculture scarcely exists as an exclusive profession. Some parts of Connecticut have been long remarked for the extensive cultivation of Onions, and a considerable amount of wool and tobacco is raised in the State, but its agricultural products are by no means equal to its wants. Counecticut has some large, and is full of small, manufacturing establishments; and no part of the United States has a greater apperance of neatness, comfort, and good economy. Its manufactured articles are found in all parts of the Union.

It is sometimes asked how, with a soil and climate not very propitious, the Yankees live, and live in comfort; and if they do not acquire large and overgrown fortunes, yet present more than a fair proportion of examples of humble competence, and as much independence as usually falls to the human condition? The answer may be comprehended in three words, industry; enterprise, and frugality. Climate and soil may be against them, but the condition in which Providence has thrown them, contributes to nourish a spirit of self-dependence, and to form a hardihood of character which is the foundation of their success. Their enterprise carries them into all parts of the country, and the world; and if the usual traits of the Yankee character go with them, their enterprise seldom disappoints their calculations.

I trust it was not mere prejudice, for of that I should feel quite ashamed; that in traveling through the new parts of the country, I persuade myself that I could, in most cases, point out a Yankee settlement or homestead, without inquiry. In several instances, where I attempted the experiment, the inquiry confirmed my conjectures. There was a certain air of carefulness about the house and outbuildings, which distinguished them from most others. I am far from thinking their ways are always best; and as it respects agricultue, they are far behind the Pennsylvania Farmers; but in the capacity of "getting along" on small means, and with honor, comfort, and independence, no people surpass them.

The Yankee too who has an officiousness in other men's matters, which if it has its evils, as it is sometimes complained of, it is not without its advantages. He no sooner plants himself in any situation, than he has a "notion" that the community would be better for good roads, secure bridges, a school house, an academy, and a meeting house; and these matters in general standing in pretty close connection, usually, though silently, announce, who presides over the municipality. The Yankees have a propensity too to have their houses painted, their yards neatly secured, ther gates on the hinges and shut, and the pigs kept out of the hall and the front parlour.

This appearance of neatness, care, frugality, and thrift, indicated generally the residence of a Yankee settler; and leads us back to the circumstances under which such a character is usually formed.

With a hard and unpropitious soil, a severe climate, and a population which, if confined to its own resources, would press sorely upon its means of subsistence, he is compelled to labor and exertion, that he may live; obliged to gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing shall be lost, he is trained in habits of extreme frugality; and his invention is continually toned and stimulated by the great spur of necessity, and a spirit of enterprise aroused and cherished, that he may increase his resources. When the Yankee emigrant carries these habits with him to his new place of residence among the fertile lands of the West, success and wealth are certain; but it too often happens, that when he finds himself in a situation where such constant and strenuous exertions are not required, and he discovers that even moderate exertion is most amply rewarded, far beyond his experience and even his imagination, the love of ease, almost an essential element in the human constitution, prevails over his early habits of industty; abundance begets extravagance and waste; he sinks into the negligent habits of those around; and stops short in the very midst of improvement. H. C.

January, 1837.

From the Boston Courier.

Our Agriculture.

Whoever has noticed, with the least attention, the productions of our periodical or daily presses of late years must have observed that its efforts were mainly directed to persuade us that our riches and prosperity flow principally from our commerce and manufactures. Far be it from me to attempt to depreciate the benefits which we unquestionably do derive from these important and fruitful sources; any effort for such a purpose would be as futile, as it would be absurd and blameable; but I certainly do think that it is a great and dangerous mistake in writers to swell their importance, till they throw the true basis of all national wealth, *agriculture*, completely into the shade. There is, however, nothing in this to surprise us, much as we may regret it; most of the authors of the articles of which I speak, are born and bred in towns or cities, their society is composed of men deeply interested in commerce or manufactures; it follows, that their minds become so entirely absorbed by the consideration of these pursuits, that there is no room left there for more enlarged views of the public weal; besides, their readers, or, at least, by far the greater part of them, are to be found in the commercial and manufacturing classes. And who is now ignorant that writers are biased, sometimes almost unconsciously, by partiality and prejudice, and not unfrequently by a baser motive; these latter make no scruple of sacrificing the interests of truth, or their country, to propitiate their patrons. Such are undoubtedly *some* of the causes which have produced the efforts we have seen to exagerate the importance of our manufactures, and by so doing, to extenuate that of Agriculture. The pernicious effects of these writings, in conjunction with some other reasons, seem at length, to have perverted the sober, steady habits of the New Englanders, and a considerable portion of them are giving way to the spirit of speculation; the tame and insipid labor of the farmer they disdain, as unworthy of these stirring times; their views and capital are turned to more seductive objects than the slow improvement of their farms, these are neglected; they fly in pursuit of an Elderado, which they seldom or never find, and we become tributaries to Europe for our bread! With a country like ours, what a strange anomoly does this fact present. We may well exclaim with the great poet—"There is something rotten in the state of Denmark." Another reason why some of our writers, speakers and statesmen are led to undervalue the paramount importance of Agriculture, is, I conceive, that manufactures, ships, &c., are tangible objects. They stand out in bold relief, are seen and understood at a glance; while a piece of land, redeemed from sterility, the production of a field or farm, doubled or quadrupled by the industry of its owner, the introduction of some improved method of culture, will all pass unheeded, except by some near neighbor. In short, the progress of agriculture is quiet and unobtrusive; it marches without drum or trumpet, and some pains must be taken to find it out; whilst, on the other hand, the advances of manufactures is heralded with acclamation. If however, the amount of capital and labor usefully employed in any branch of industry, is to be taken as the criterion of its comparative value, a very little research will soon show that no other can bear any comparison with Agriculture. It would be merely advancing a trueism to say, that the capital so employed is far greater, and in its results, far more important, I might say *indispensable* to the country than that invested in the most successful manufacture, or brilliant commercial speculation. To the soil we must look for the very staff of life. Where agriculture flourishes, the country is a garden; where depressed it becomes a wilderness; manufactures, commerce, and every thing else must prosper or perish with it; but agriculture *can* stand and *has* stood alone for ages; but to stimulate its advocates to perfection, and promote the wealth and grandeur of a nation, no one will deny that commerce and manufactures are potent auxiliaries.

We are apt to attribute the power and riches of England chiefly to the rapid progress of her manufactures. No doubt this is *one* fruitful source of her greatness; but facts will show, that she owes it far more to the improvement of her Agriculture; and, indeed, that without this, the advance of the others must have been soon arrested, paralized. In England; in consequence of its improved culture, *four* millions of laborers supply provisions for themselves, for *six* millions of manufacturers, and *two* millions of population, living by their professions, or on their income. In France, with a better soil and climate, *but imperfect culture*, it requires *twenty* millions of laborers on the soil, to supply ten millions otherwise occupied. Her manufactures are, of course, deeply affected by this state of things. Our home and foreign commerce does not less sympathize with Agriculture, than our manufactures. The productions imported into a country from the most remote corners of the earth, must, in the final result, be exchanged for the fruits of its soil. A pound of tea or pepper sold by a village grocer, is after all, but an exchange of a production of China or Java, for an equivalent in bread and meat. Let the cultivator produce only enough for himself, and there ends this exchange. The more or less surplus produce of the farmer will regulate the scale of commerce with as much precision, as the temperature does that of the thermometer.

Every house, manufactory, ship, or machine, represents, *in part*, the provisions supplied to those employed in its construction; such plain truths cannot be misunderstood or controverted. The comparative importance of Agriculture, and the capital it absorbs, is peculiarly striking. When we turn again to England, the most manufacturing nation in the world, where, as we have seen, *six* millions of her population are employed in this way, and only *four* on the soil, *there* the average value of land is estimated, by a very competent authority, at thirty pounds sterling per acre; the capital required to work it, at ten pounds, also per acre, and the number of acres in cultivation, by landlords or tenants, at fifty millions. This estimate gives us, as the capital employed in Agriculture in the three kingdoms, the enourmous sum of 2,000,000,000 pounds sterling!! Let this be compared with the amount employed in any, or every other way, and we shall see how vastly it preponderates. How much greater, then, must be the disparity in a country like ours, where manufactures are in their infancy? To the *soil*, then, we must look, as the grand permanent source of all riches; and every man, sincerely attached to the good of his country, should use his best endeavors to aid in the improvement of its culture. Draining, canals, roads, are all important auxiliaries to this end, and, at the same time, the surest means of promoting the prosperity of commerce and manufactures. These last are, after all, but the branches and leaves of the tree; Agriculture is trunk and root. E. C.

Northampton, 8th February, 1837.

The Turnep Fly.—A method of preventing the ravages of the turnep fly has been adopted at Hempstead.

The practice is founded upon the fact that the fly emits its eggs in the autumn, and that they are not hatched till the next spring, when the warmth and the fruitful state of the soil by repeated ploughings and harrowings, admit of the generating effects of the sun's rays. It is at this period the turnep is generally sown; the plant therefore springs up at the time the fly is hatched, and a supply of food being thereby afforded, it is not surprising that they should multiply and thrive. If instead of sowing immediately, the soil is brought into as fine a srate as possible and the sowing delayed for ten days, although the fly would be hatched, it would die for want of its natural food. The existence of a fly in the field may be ascertained by placing cabbage leaves at night and examining them in the morning.—*Balt. Farmer.*

Give such hogs as you have in your pen, once a week, a few shovels full of charcoal, or pieces of rotten wood.—*Ib.*

COMMUNICATIONS.

The manner of making Turnpike Roads objected to—No. VII.

We have had occasion in the preceding essays, to bring turnpike roads into view, and speak of them as unfit models for imitation in the construction of common roads. If the manner of making roads which has been practiced by turnpikers, is inadmissible, where common roads are to be made, the influence is almost irresistible that it cannot have been the best way to make turnpikes. To combat theories and practices which have prevailed so long; which have been generally received as correct, and perhaps never called in question, requires a degree of boldness to which it will be difficult for us to attain. Yet, as we are subjects of a free government, and claim the liberty of writing and speaking our sentiments freely on any subjects of individual or general importance, we shall venture to call in question the correctness and economy of turnpiking as it has been practiced in this section of the country.

It is, we think, quite clear, that the art of making roads has been understood by turnpikers no better than by pathmasters. The system of turnpiking was commenced in this country, and has been subsequently carried on under mistaken theories, in regard to the requisites of making good roads. It was supposed, (and the sentiment seems still to be entertained,) that the chief requisite was, in giving to roads an elevated and roof like form, for the turning off of water. If the roads were to have been formed of materials like those used in the construction of McAdamized roads, that would admit of no indentations in the form of ruts, or holes made by the feet of animals, the theory would have been correct. Yet McAdamized roads are, as we are informed, elevated but very little, the apex or highest point of elevation, not being more than four or five inches higher than the lowest side extremities. On roads constructed as they are of materials that will not admit of indentation, moderate elevations are useful on the same principles and for the same reasons that elevations are useful in the roofs of buildings. They will turn off the water, which would not be done so effectually, either in the case of such roads or the roofs of buildings, if they presented a flat or horizontal superficies. But this principle does not apply to roads, constructed as turnpikes have been, of spungy materials—of clods of muck and of earth replete with vegetable remains. On a road composed of such materials, no wheel can press, without making an indentation, no animal can tread without making a foot hole. These indentations become receptacles and reservoirs of water, the mischievous and ruinous effects of which have, we think, been sufficiently depicted in one of the preceding essays.

It is, we believe, generally admitted, that turnpiking, as it has been practiced in this section of the country, has proved a failure. It would probably have been better for community if nothing of it had been done. The roads in general have been no better than other roads, frequently not so good. If from their existence any advantages have resulted to community, they must have consisted only of the small revenue collected of foreigners, and applied as a portion of it may have been, to defray the expenses incident to the roads. Whether this has been sufficient to justify the system is not a point for us to labor. The object which we have in view, is to detect the errors of the system, and to hold up turnpike roads, not as models for imitation, but as beacons to convey knowledge of danger.

In turnpiking, it has always so far as we know, been considered as indispensably requisite, to plough and scrape. It seems to have been supposed that roads, in order to ensure the distinctive character of turnpikes, must be elevated and rendered convex in their central parts, by piling on ground taken chiefly from gutters opened at their sides. To this rule it does not appear that any exceptions have been allowed. No matter what was the form and texture of the ground; no matter whether the road was to be made on a hill or in a dale, on dry land or in a swamp. It was supposed there was but one way to make it. Alike in every case, ploughing and throwing up were considered as indispensably requisite. Now this may have been good practice, and such views may have been correct; but we think not. Although the roads, when they were finished and offered for inspection, appeared well, and were indeed fine exhibitions, yet there was deception in them. They were composed of bad materials, and these materials were thrown together in such quantities, and in such form, as to render it certain that when moistened with water, and agitated by traveling, the roads would become deep mortar beds. All know that such have been the results, and that in general these results have been more or less disastrous, in proportion to the greater or less quantity of ground thus thrown together.

D. B.

Marcellus, Onondaga County, February, 1837.

Interesting Experiments in Feeding—Value of Straw, &c.

Mr. Tucker—Previous to the 1st of January, I fed two heifers (which had their first calves in the spring of 1836, one in calf and the other farrow) with long straw and oil meal; and on the first of January I commenced weighing their milk, and continued weighing for six days, on each of the following feed:

1. Six days on long straw and six quarts oil meal per day, each.
2. Six days on 24 quarts cut carrots and long straw, each.
3. Six days on 24 quarts cut ruta baga and long straw to each.
4. Six days on long straw and six quarts oil meal, each.
5. Six days on cut straw, wet, and 6 quarts oil meal, mixed, to each cow; and the results were as follows:

When fed on	lbs.	oz.
Long straw and oil meal, an average per day of	31	13
carrots,	28	14
ruta baga,	26	4
oil meal,	30	8
Cut straw, wet, and oil meal,	35	2

I am wintering my cattle, sheep and horses on straw again this winter, and from my own experience and that of my father, I must disagree with you; first, when you say thrashing machines injure straw, (I think they benefit it, and if any injury is caused, it is by the improper manner in which straw is secured;) and secondly, you say barley straw is our best straw. Our stocks have invariably improved when taken from barley straw and put to wheat straw, and fell off in flesh when changed from wheat to barley. They will eat barley straw better than wheat straw, it being much softer, but there is not the same heart in the one as the other. My team horses do much better on cut straw, wet, and eight quarts oil meal each, per day, than they do on as much of the best of uncut hay as they will eat, and the same quantity of oil meal fed dry.

The *Skeneateles Agricultural Society*, have offered a small premium on each of the following kinds of roots, to be raised next year, viz: Ruta Baga, Carrots, Parsneps and Sugar Beet. The farmers in the town are getting quite engaged in the culture of roots, and I think from the present feeling of the farmers on the subject, there will be a great increase in the quantity raised next year over any past year.

I have fed 60 Ewes on long straw and one bushel of apples, carrots, ruta baga, or potatoes, per day, and I think there can be but few flocks of Saxony sheep produced in this town that will compare with them. I should be glad to feed more roots, but the drouth destroyed my crops the last season. I remain, yours, &c.

S. Porter Rhoades.

Skeneateles, Feb. 20, 1837.

Barley.

In an interesting paper issued in the form of a circular by the Executive Committee of the A. T. Society, I observed the following statement: "It appears by the collector's returns on the Erie canal, last year, up to the 3d of October, there were 285,488 bushels of barley received at Albany: up to the same period this year, 72,663 bushels; shewing a falling off of 214,285 bushels. We believe there has been a full crop of barley in the state, so that the inference is, that the farmers are feeding it to their cattle instead of furnishing the brewery, to some extent at least."

The fact respecting the falling off is undoubtedly as stated, though I think other causes than the one stated have contributed to this result. In the first place the crop of barley was not an average one in this state; the extreme wet and cold weather of June hindered its growth, where it did not drown and destroy it. In the second place, barley is more extensively used for making bread by many who find it rather difficult to procure wheat, than it has been in any former year. Barley of good quality, and well dried and ground will yield 30lbs. of flour to the bushel, which renders it much cheaper for food than wheat at the present prices. In the third place, as the committee assert, barley is the present year much more generally used for making beef and pork than is usual among western farmers, a result caused by the failure of the corn crop.

But the cause to which the falling off in the transportation of barley to the east is to be attributed more perhaps than to any other, is the fact that it is extensively purchased and used for distillation. It is surprising that while the cry for bread is heard from all parts of our country, men should be found converting what should be the substance of the poor, into their poison. While the poor houses of our cities and counties are overflowing with families destitute of bread, enough grain is weekly converted into liquor, to supply the whole with all that would be required. One hundred thousand bushels of rye and corn are weekly used in the distilleries of New-York city and its immediate vicinity. The friends of the poor, and the conservators of public morals should think of these things.

A. B.

Culture of Ruta Baga, &c.

Mr. Tucker—The year before the last I was induced from many circumstances to put in Ruta Baga turneps, in order to ascertain what would be their effect upon the Indian corn crop, which was to follow on the same ground the succeeding or last year; and the result of the experiment, in my opinion, is of so much importance that I cannot resist the desire of making it known through your useful Journal, knowing that all those, who like myself are farming with the view to the greatest certainty, with the greatest profit, and consequently with the least amount of labor, will duly appreciate the information.

No one more highly values the Ruta Baga as a crop, than I do, considering it conjointly with Indian corn, as the basis of all permanently good and profitable American husbandry; for if it be true, and I doubt it not, that England owes the large portion of her advance in agriculture to the turnep crop, what ought not our improvement to be, when, superadded to that crop, we have our Indian corn, of which England is entirely destitute, and can have no substitute which we cannot equally partake. Of all the known plants, not one from my experience, and as others have often, but which cannot be too often, repeated, can compare with corn for its advantages to the farmer; so nutritious is its grain, so valuable is its blades and stalks for fodder, and its refuse for manure; the pith of the stalk from its spungy nature, being admirably adapted to retain all but the volatile parts of our liquid manures. This digression is given merely with the view to show the great estimation in which I hold these two plants, and the desire of finding out their relationship in a natural system of rotation, gave rise to the experiment, the subject of this communication.

Having seen it asserted in more than one agricultural periodical, in speaking of the manifold advantages of the ruta baga, that this plant was in no wise

prejudicial to any of our ordinary crops which might succeed to it, I had faith enough to try an acre of a field of 8½ acres prepared for corn, wishing to believe it true, but not belief enough for more than the quantity mentioned. The result proved that this crop, like all other grain or corn crops, immediately preceding corn, is highly injurious to it; corn absolutely requiring grass, being its natural rotation, and a young sod with manure, unless a well rotted old one, as I am informed, for its greatest perfection.

For three years past, I have had, all circumstances considerered, the greatest success in raising corn, not only as to quantity per acre, but soundness; this latter circumstance, being by no means common with farmers for the last two seasons. In order to make the experiment perfectly intelligible, and to add to its utility, it is necessary to state that my red clover sod, which is now pastured, is either once or twice mowed, as the case may be, and then followed by winter wheat, sowing in the spring about ten pounds of clover seed to the acre. So soon as the wheat is removed, the manure from the barn yard is evenly spread upon the young clover, which never fails to produce a luxuriant crop of grass and weeds, and to keep, as is well known to gardeners, the ground loose, which is an essential condition for a good corn crop. Nothing further is done, the field being untouched by scythe or hoof until the following spring, when the whole is turned under in time merely to plant, and by deep ploughing, and then harrowing, so as to level the whole surface. After striking out for corn, the plough is banished for the season, the sod being kept wholly undisturbed during the continuance of the corn crop, using only the cultivator. This mode of preparing the ground, causes little trouble in tending the corn, weeds, or grass, being sparingly produced immediately after a clover sod.

For the purpose of ascertaining the effect upon the corn crops, so soon as the manure was spread upon the ground, which was the middle of July, one acre at a corner of the field was ploughed, harrowed and drilled for turneps, which produced a very good crop. The next spring at the usual time, the whole of the field was planted with corn, but for the period that the corn appeared above ground, there was a difference truly remarkable as to color, and size, which was noticed by every one that visited the farm. This difference continued throughout the whole growth, and at husking time, fully one third of the corn on the turnep ground was soft, diseased and stunted, while that on the unploughed or untouched ground was unusually sound, hard, and the ears large; in short the corn was unusually good, even for a favorable season. That this effect was not owing to any substance which the turneps had obtained from the soil, the sudden setting in of the winter enabled me fully to prove, for taking me by surprise I was prevented from gathering more than about two thirds of the crop, the other third rotted in the ground; but even their presence did not produce a difference when compared with the other portion of the acre, than was more than merely observable to an experienced eye, proving fully how essential a loose state of the soil and the presence as it were of a repository of moisture and food, as there must be when a mass of grass manure, &c. is ploughed under, and there kept untouched for the roots, not only to obtain sustenance, but to luxuriate.

For these last few years I have been in the habit of planting my corn much earlier than is customary here, and I know I am a gainer by so doing. The common period is from the 6th to the 10th of May. I prefer from the 28th of April to the 1st of the former month. I find that corn, when the thermometer at seven inches below the surface, is from 58 to 60° vegetates well, & this instrument I should suppose, ought to be the regulator of the period of corn-planting, being disposed to believe, that there is a temperature favorable to that vigour of growth, and all other circumstances being the same, necessary to resist its enemies the grubs.

Bristol, Pa. Feb. 8, 1837. L. V.

Memoirs of the Board of Agriculture.

We continue our extracts from the second volume of this work:

On the Sowing of Clover Seed.

My land is a sandy loam, with the exception of some acres of clay. For many years past, when laying down my land for grass, I sowed four pounds of red clover-seed, and one pound of timothy, to each acre. From this manner of seeding down, I generally cut from one to one and a half tons of hay per acre, and the quantity of fall pasture was not great. The mowing was slow and expensive, as the grass stood thin. It would fall down in every direction: the stalk grew lengthy and coarse, and made poor hay. To remedy this, I began by sowing six pounds of clover-seed, and two pounds of timothy, on each acre. I found this a great benefit; and by recent experiments, I find that eight ponnds of clover, and four of timothy seed, is the proper quantity to be sown on an acre for mowing, or twelve pounds of clover-seed on each acre, for pasture. From land in a good state of cultivation, thus seeded, I now cut four tons of hay per acre, which is fine, and of good quality. The expense of mowing is not as much as formerly, as the grass grows thick and fine. If it lodges down, it generally falls one way, so that the mower can proceed much faster than when it lies in every direction. The extra fall pasture, produced by this manner of seeding, pays me the first fall for the extra seed sown—the grass being so thick, it preserves a moisture on the surface of the earth, and is not so liable to be injured by the dry weather, as it is by the common mode of seeding, and it leaves no room for noxious weeds: the pastures are clean and handsome. When I wish to break up land that has been thus stocked, (which I do every fourth year) I find the soil increased in quality, easy of cultivation, and in a good state for wheat or corn; and after all that can be said on this subject, much depends on the judgment of the farmer. Poor, dry soils require more seed than rich, good ones. It may be objected, that the quantity of seed required is too expensive: to which I reply, that farmers should always raise their own seed. It indicates a want of prudence in the farmer, that purshases clover-seed year after year. I raise as much clover-seed with ten dollars expense, as I can purchase for forty dollars.—*A. St. John, of Mont.*

Summer Fallows

In the best improved districts of Great Britain, France, and America, summer fallows have been pretty much abandoned. It has been found that,

1. They occasion the loss of one crop.
2. That they impoverish the soil, by exposing it to the influence of a scorching midsummer's sun.
3. That they increase the expense of tillage. And,
4. That they waste the vegetable and fertilizing matter of the sod, which, by the cross ploughings, is exposed to the exhausting influence of the sun and winds.

Darwin says, that "though a summer fallow may be an advantage to a poor soil which has nothing to lose, yet it must be injurious to a rich one which has nothing to gain." It is only advocated, by late writers, as a means of destroying weeds; and this can be done full as well by crops which require to be hand-hoed, particularly maize, the properties of which, as a cleansing crop, are unknown in English husbandry.

For *summer fallows*, substitute FALLOW CROPS. These may be *maize, potatoes, peas, beans,* or *oats.* Or, if the ground is a clover ley, it requires neither fallow nor fallow crops. Plough in August or early in September, and sow wheat upon the sod, harrowing well in the direction of the furrow. I will speak of the fallow crops separately.

1. *Indian Corn.* If the soil is stiff, or the sward stubborn, plough late in the fall, and harrow in the spring, before you plant. If a sand or a light loam, leave the grass to grow till near planting time. In either case, the roller may be used to advantage. It compresses the sod, smothers the growth of grass, and prevents the escape of the gasses evolved in the fermentation of the vegetable matter buried by the plough. If you have manure to spare, (and you can use it no where to a better advantage than this crop,) spread it on the sod, and plough it under. Plant your corn in hills. The distance will depend upon the kind of seed, and strength of the ground. I plant at three feet each way. Harrow at the first dressing, the more the better, provided you do not disturb the sod; and plough shallow and earth slightly at the second. But exterminate all weeds. By leaving the sod unbroken, the roots of the grain have a better supply of moisture and nutriment beneath it. The process of decomposition is at its height in August, when the young ears are putting forth and the grain filling. Harvest your corn by cutting it up, stocks and all, close to the surface, as soon as the ears are thoroughly glazed or seared; bind it in bundles, and stack it in small stacks off the ground. Proceed immediately to plough, and sow your wheat or rye, which in almost every case can be done in the month of September. The nutriment in the stocks will ripen your corn, while by cutting thus early, you improve the quality, and double the quantity of cattle food. An extensive and intelligent farmer, Mr. P. R. Livingston, informs me, that he values the fodder, thus secured, a full compensation for all the labor of cultivating the crop, leaving the grain a clear profit. I split the hills, harrow, plough, sow the seed, and harrow it in both ways. On light soils, it may be preferable to plough in the seed. I raise an early and very prolific corn, which is invariably ripe enough to cut the first ten days in September.

I am satisfied, from several years experience, that other things being alike, the clover sod, ploughed under in May, will give a material increase of corn, over land which has no sod, I think 20 per cent. on an average, and the crop is much less liable to be injured by drouth. The planting should be as early as the season and soil will admit.

Failures, and great inconvenience and loss, often result from the seed not vegetating, from its destruction by the wire worm and grub, and from the depredations committed upon the young plants by birds and squirrels. As I have never suffered in either of these respects, I will state my method of preparing the seed. I collect, in the first place, a quantity of the roots of the black hellebore, or itch weed, which abounds in swamps, grows with and resembles in its habits, skunk's cabbage, except that the leaves are narrower, longer, and grow upon the seed stock: these I boil, till I obtain a strong decoction. I then take out the roots, and add to the liquor salt petre in the proportion of four ounces to three gallons, and put in my seed corn while the liquor is yet warm. Thirty-six hours is the longest period it should be suffered to steep, as the nitre may otherwise destroy the vegetating principle of the grain. As a further precaution, the liquor is again warmed, a gill of tar stirred in, the seed again immersed in it anew. Thus prepared, I have not lost twenty hills in four years. The germinating process commences before the corn is planted, and unless the ground is too wet to grow this crop, (and it never pays the expense of culture, on soils that abound in springs, or that are naturally wet and cold,) it will continue to progress. The hellebore is poisonous, and though the ground may partially extract the poison, neither birds nor squirrels will ever disturb a dozen hills. The tar impregnates the seed, and protects it from the worms. The nitre and plaster, with which the latter seed is mixed before planting, combine their fertilizing properties to give vigour and strength to the young plants.

A gentleman in Madison county, who is said to have raised the greatest crop of corn ever growed in the state, ascribes his success principally to the circumstance of his having put four bushels of seed on an acre, instead of six quarts, the usual quantity;

and pulling up all but the requisite number of the most thrifty plants at the first dressing of the crop; and that no stalk produced less than three ears. I do not know that the facts have been correctly stated to me; but I confess they appear to be rational. We scarcely ever notice a hill of corn, without observing a spear more vigorous than the rest. On the contrary, those plants which are pale and sickly when young, seldom produce much under the best care. My experience warrants me in the belief, that seed taken from a stock which has produced two or three ears, is more prolific than seed from a stock which has produced but one ear.

2. *Potatoes*, if intended as a fallow crop, should be planted early. If on sward, hills are more convenient than drills. The dung should be unrotted, and spread previous to ploughing. If dunged in the hill, the manure is apt to generate too much heat, to encourage a too luxuriant growth of tops, to protract the ripening of the crop, and to render it watery and ill flavored. It is a mistaken notion that the best potatoes grow in a warm dry soil. Ireland and Nova-Scotia produce the best in the world. The climate in both is comparatively cold, and very damp. I have planted them on a clover ley, by dropping the seed, six inches apart, in every fourth furrow, long manure being first drawn off the land with a rake, into the furrow. The ground was afterwards rolled,—and harrowe d as the plants were breaking ground. One ploughing and a slight earthing with the hoe completed t e ptocess of cultivation. The produce was more than 400 bushels per acre. Land ploughed deep the preceding fall, would, I have no doubt, under this plan of culture, with manure, produce a larger crop. Potatoes, generally, may be dug between the 15th and 30th September; and the ground is quickly prepared for crop; which should not be put in after the first week in October. I have procured a kind which are not only of good quality for the table, but which come to maturity in eight to ten weeks from planting. These promise to be valuable for a fallow crop. A practice has been recommended to me, to prevent the deterioration of this crop, a misfortune which seems to follow planting, successively, seed raised upon the same farm. Two years' experience has tended to satisfy me of its utility. The recommendation is, to select seed of a good size, to cut off and throw away a slice from the seed end, and to cut the residue into two, three or four pieces, according to the remaining number of eyes. Its utility is based upon the supposition, and I may say the fact, that where several stocks grow close together, the vegetable will be of a diminutive size; and that the discarded slice, which has from three to six eyes, may be correctly compared to the tips and butts of an ear of seed corn, which are rejected as useless, because they produce invariably sickly plants. The best potatoe soil is one which is cool, moist and light, such as is afforded by swamps abounding in in vegetable alluvion, and well drained. The seed should not be planted so deep, nor the plants earthed so high, as to exclude the salutary influence of air and light; but frequent stirrings of the ground, with the plough or cultivator, are highly beneficial.

3. *Beans* may be cultivated in drills or in hills. They are a valuable crop; and with good care, are as profitable as a wheat crop. They leave the soil in good tilth. The China bean, with a red eye, is to be preferred. They ripen early, and are very productive. I cultivated beans the last year, in hree different ways, viz. in hills, in drills, and sowed broadcast. I need not describe the first, which is a well known process. I had an acre in drills, which was the best crop I ever saw. My management was this: on an acre of light ground, where the clover had been frozen out the preceding winter, I spread eight loads of long manure, and immediately ploughed and harrowed the ground. Drills or furrows were then made with a light plough, at the distance of two and a half feet, and the beans thrown along the furrows, about the 25th May, by the hand, at the rate of at least a bushel on th· acre. I then guaged a double mould board plough, which was passed once between the rows, and was followed by a light one-horse roller, which flattened the ridges. The crop was twice cleaned of weeds by the hoe, but not earthed. The product was more than forty-eight bushels, by actual measurement. The third experiment was likewise upon a piece of ground where the clover had been killed. It was ploughed about the first of June, the seed sown, like peas, upon the first furrow, and harrowed in. The drouth kept them back, but about 65 rods of ground, on which the experiment was made, gave a product of twelve and a half bushels. The crop was too ripe when it was harvested, and as it was cut with a scythe, I estimated that about two and a half bushels were left upon the ground. No labor was bestowed upon them from the time they were sown till they were harvested.

4 and 5. *Peas and Oats*, are both a pretty sure crop upon a sod. The ground should be ploughed in the fall, and the seed harrowed in as early as possible. A *neat* way of putting in either of these crops is, where stones and roots do not interfere, to turn the furrow slice six inches broad, and six deep, and lay it in an angle of 45 degrees upon the preceding slice. A field thus ploughed, presents a continuity of ridges, five inches high, and six inches slope, each way. Sow the oats or peas—the seed falls naturally into the cavities between the ridges—then harrow with a light seed harrow, across the furrows. The inequalities are thus reduced, the grass upon the edge of the furrow slice perfectly smothered, the seed covered with fine earth, and it comes up with the regularity of a drilled crop. The trustees of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, recommended oats as the best crop upon an inverted sward, and as the first of a six years' rotation; and they recommended that it be cut in the milk for fodder. An acre which would yield 30 bushels, might, if cut in the milk, give two or three tons of fodder. In this way, they are unquestionably the most profitable; and when intended to be cut green, five or six bushels should be sown on an acre.

As a general rule, peas and oats constitute the best fallow crop, upon cold stiff soils, particularly if the ground is not manured. Upon loams and sands, beans, and, with manure, maize and potatoes, are preferable as fallow crops.—*J. Buel, of Albany.*

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On Pruning of Orchards.

There is no branch of the management of orchards less understood, or more unskilfully performed, than the operation of prunning; a belief of its necessity is so general, that even the most careless will seldom omit it—such however, is the want of skill in many of the operators, that total neglect would be less prejudicial, than their performance of it. If judiciously done, pruning promotes health and early fruitfulness: and will continue a tree in vigor, long after the common period of its duration. Nothing has contributed more to the imperfect knowledge of this operation, than the wordy and unintelligible systems which have been published respecting it; in a mere practical system, it is unnecessary to lay much stress on *wood branches* and *fruit branches;* which, however well understood by an observing intelligent gardener, can scarcely be comprehended by the labourer, employed in the business of pruning an orchard—from the rapidity of vegetation, which is generally ascribed to the nature of our climate, excessive pruning is very apt to generate an infinite number of suckers from the limbs of apple trees; which, if suffered to grow, are more injurious to the production of fruit, than the woody branches which are removed: our great heat, and dry atmosphere, render close pruning less necessary here than in England, whence we derive most of our instruction on this point. A good general rule is, never to shorten the branches, unless to improve the figure of the tree; and then to take them off at the separation, very close, so that the wound may heal well and soon: the branches should shoot as much as possible in increasing distances, as they proceed from the common centre, inclining a little upwards, by which means the sap will be more evenly impelled, and better distributed; the ranges should not approach too near to each other; for the admission of the rays of the sun is necessary to the production and perfect maturity of fine flavoured fruit—in cutting off a branch, it should he done as close as possible, never leaving a stump, for the bark cannot grow over it, and disease in the wood will inevitably follow. If the wound produced by the separation be very large, cover it with tar or thick paint; if small, fresh cow dung will be the best plaster: I have healed very large wounds from the gnawing of calves, horses, and sheep, by a liberal application of this plaster, secured by a bandage of paper or linen.

When trees are much pruned they are apt to throw out numerous suckers from the boughs in the following summer; these should be rubbed off when they first appear, or they may be easily broken off while young and britt e—cutting is apt to increase their number. Trees differ much in their form and require very different treatment in pruning; it may not be necessary in our warm climate to trim quite so close as in England, but great care should be observed to take off every limb which crosses another, or is likely so to do at a future time; those who can conveniently do it, will find a benefit from forming the heads of their trees in the nursery, the year before they remove them—when transplanted, they will thrive more rapidly from not having been pruned at the time of removal, which in some measure exhausts and weakens the tree; I have been latterly in the habit of giving the principal pruning to my orchards, after they have been planted out about five or six years; their growth, with proper cultivation, is then so vigorous, as to permit any natural defects in their forms to be corrected with safety, by free pruning, and forming their branches: the peculiarity of growth which characterizes each kind is then visible, and uniformity of shape may be more easily attained.

Apple trees should be so formed, as to allow a man and horse to pass under them in ploughing; this elevation of the branches, while it protects them from cattle, opens the ground to the salutary influence of the sun, on the crops of grain and grass.

No error is more universal, than an anxiety for early productiveness in an orchard; it is generally obtained at the expense of much eventual profit, and by a great diminution of the size and vigor of the trees; believing early fecundity to be injurious to the vigor and perfection of plants, I am always attentive to pluck from the trees these evidences of early maturity, in the first stages of their existence.

It was a common practice some years since, to apply Mr. Forsyth's celebrated composition to large wounds produced by pruning: that novelty, like many others, had its day amoung us; and has finally lost its popularity, from a general belief of its inefficacy—Mr. Forsyth, at a later period, announced as a new discovery, what had been long known in this part of our country; that an application of cow dung and urine, was more efficacious in healing the wounds of trees than his plaister, even in the moist climate of England: In America our winter frosts decompose it, and our summer heats dry it up so completely, as to render it useless for the purposes intended.—*Coxe on Fruit Trees.*

Blight in Pear Tress.

Mr. Samuel Reeve of Salem, N. J. has discovered a method of preventing the inroads of this dangerous disease, which has so often proved fatal to the hopes of the enterprising farmer and horticulturist. The result of his observations which present an entirely novel view of the subject were laid before a meeting of the Horticultural Society held in this city on the 21st inst. It will be observed that the experiments of Mr. R. refer principally to the pear tree, as that is more liable to suffer from the Blight than any other. A personal conversation with this gentleman, together with mature reflection upon the subject, has satisfied us that the preventive suggested, could be successfully applied to all fruit-bearing trees, *subject to Blight.* The discovery strikes us as being of peculiar importance at the present time, as within the last few years, the decay of fruit trees, in the vicinity of this city has been altogether unprecedented—so much so, indeed that in relation to one species (the Apple) we have heard a distinguished horticulturist observe, that in less than ten years, there would not be a single thriving plant of this description within as many miles of the city of Philadelphia. This however may be referred to various causes.

Mr. Reeve observes in substance, that from a series of experiments he had been enabled to check the Blight in Pear trees for a number of years by

finding the disease to originate from the root, which being of a very porous or spongy nature obsorbs moisture very rapidly, and if the wood of the pear grafted thereon, be also of a porous nature, a rapid growth is the consequence, which is the reason why such pear trees out strip others of a more close, or compact wood; the latter he has found not to blight to as great a degree as the former.

The Pear tree requires a soil that is of an even cool temperature of moisture, the sudden transition from wet to dry predisposing the tree to blight. Other cases occur when the tree has been in constant tillage, with a sudden transition of the sward, always terminating in blight in a greater or less degree.

Mr. R. says he has seen the blight attack them after accustomed to stand in sward by a sudden cultivation by tillage, and that in all cases the pear tree does best by keeping the grovnd cool, and in an even temperature of moisture.

Many other fruit trees will bear all the sudden transitions from wet to dry and dry to wet with tillage and without it. But not so with the pear, the sap flowing through the porous pear roots rapidly in the spring, and then suddenly checked by drouth causes the blight, and the sudden flow of the sap in summer, after having been checked will generally cause a rapid progress of the blight.

The plan to be adopted is that the roots of the pear be kept in an even and cool temperature of moisture from the first of May to the 16th of Sept. by covering the ground with hay, stones, bricks, &c. three to four feet further out than the roots continue to extend, so thick as to prevent the growth of grass.

The black spots in the wood of the part diseased originates from an overplus of the sap, which spots are the effect and not as many suppose the cause of the disease. The pear tree ought never to be luxuriantly pruned, but moderately every year in July or August, in a dry season.

Mr. Reeve further informs us that for a number of years, he has carried this plan into execution, on an extensive scale, and in every instance, he has succeeded in checking the progress of the disease. Any way that the rapid growth to a medium can be checked, and so kept restrained from spring to fall will be conducive to the longevity of the pear tree. The pear will do well on quince, thorn, and apple roots, the blight not attacking them as when grafted on pear. The root of the pear is more spongy and absorbs the moisture more readily than the quince, thorn, and apple, causing the difficulty of keeping the pear to a requisite medium growth. On examining other fruit trees affected wiih blight, the wood will be found soft and very porous when in a wet time having had an overflow of sap, which caused a surfeit or blight.

The more hard and compact the wood is, the less liability there is of blight; the seckel pear is of that description, and will not require that attention in guarding against the disease as some others. When the roots of the pear are compact and less porous than ordinary, the hot ground with much rain, has not that effect in blighting, which is the reason some tress have not been known to blight. In a general conclusion on the subject, the ground should be kept cool through the summer, when an excess of rain will not or rather can not cause or create the disease. It may be proper to observe that no variation of size, soil, or situation will affect the success of this experiment.

Mr. Reeve has promised us a further communication on this subject. The above remarks are all that are essential at the present time, and we trust that our friends in the country will give them a fair trial.—*Phila. Saturday Evening Post.*

THE HOLLOW-HORN.—As this is the season of the year when we may expect this disease to make its appearance among the horned tribe, we would remind their owners, that by pouring a teaspoonful of the sprits of turpentine in the cup or cavity in the back of the head of cattle, they may save them from the effects of this always unpleasant, and often fatal disease.

Did you make root crops for your stock last year? If you did not, do so this, and next year you will thank us for reminding you what you ought to do.—*Balt. Farmer.*

List of Payments for the Genesee Farmer,

FROM FEBRUARY 1, TO MARCH 1, 1837.

For Volume 4.
J. T. Benton
Wm. Van Duzer
Half of Volume 5.
Asa Merrill
Henry Willets
For Volume 5.
Jeremiah G. Buel
Thomas Folger
M. B. Mason, $1.75
Jacob Flanner
Phineas Stanton
Angus Gordon
Henry Fisher
Half of Volume 6.
Jona Smith
Wheeler Truesdell
Abraham Smith
Joel Thorn
George Rockwell
Egbert Humphrey
James S. Boughton
J. Cannings Fuller
For Volume 6.
Elias Randall
Henry Willets
A. Bunnell
T. B. Halm
Lyman Wilmarth
Isaac Cox
Jeremiah G. Buel
Lewis Griffin
Israel Curtis
R. B. Mason
Thomas Folger
John Carter
John Baker
Jacob Flanner
George W. Sutton
Phineas Stanton
James K. Guernsey
Angus Gordon
James Houghton
Darius Comstock
Sylvanus Emmons
Asa Merrill
Henry Fisher
Philo St. John
First half Volume 7.
H. F. Bigelow
John Baker
Joel Thorn
Egbert Humphrey
Stephen Robinson
For Volume 7.
J. C. Kinne
G. S. Loomis
S. Porter Rhoades
Abner Edwards
L. W. Cleaveland
Zenas Blish
P. M. Ward
Horace Sheldon
Israel Skinner
Burrage Rice
Jonathan Smith
Bani Bradley
Alfred Haines
Wm. Shattuck
C. B. Hotchkiss
Morris L. Wright
James Hart
E. R. Spear
Major Rooth
P. V. Cortland, jun
S. S. Fowler
C. N. Bement
Lewis E. Heston
S. E. Barker
Cecil Mortimer
William Blaikie
Timothy Lyon
David Rich
J. H. Kennedy
George W. Sutton
P. & R. Barker
A. Burns
Samuel Heston
James Christie
P. Prouty
W. N. Clark
R. C. Nicholas
Alden Smith
William Pitkin
Joseph Savage
Isaac P. Carmatt
Phineas Stanton
Moses Gray
S. Savage
David Bacon
Aaron E. Pettie
Joseph W. Butler
Benjamin Bowen
Lucius Clark
James K. Guernsey
James S. Boughton
James Houghton
Lardner Vanuxem
A. D. Lane
James Stewart
J. Gibbons, $1.50
J. Cannings Fuller
Richard Pomeroy
Wm. W. Gorham
Jno. I. Deming
B. Sherman
Jenks Dexter
D. Gifford
James Sinclair
Alvah Curtis
E. T. Aldrich
E. S. Bartlett
Joseph Hedges
James H. Wright
Peter Harris
Elias Randall
Julius Brace
First half Volume 8.
Burrage Rice
C. B. Hotchkiss
Geo. W. Sutton

WILLIAM ATKINSON, *LAND AGENT*, 17 Exchange-street, Rochester. ☞ Farms for sale
march 4 6m

White Italian Mulberry Seed.

A FEW pounds White Mulberry Seed, warranted of the growth of 1836; for sale at the Rochester Seed Store. As the supply this year is inadequate to the demand, persons wishing to purchase will do well to improve this opportunity.
march 4 REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

Choice Seeds for Farmers.

NEW French white Sugar Beet, *imported.*
Mangel Wurtzel, or Field Beet.
English purple Top Ruta Baga.
Large Orange Carrot, *for stock.*
White Dutch Clover, perennial Rye Grass, Lucern, Trifoil, Skinless Oats, Broom Corn, &c. &c. For sale at the Rochester Seed Store No. 5 Arcade Hall, by
feb 25 REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

Superior Garden and Agricultural Seeds.

THE subscriber has now on hand a full supply of Garden and Field Seeds, growth of 1836, among which are all the finest Cabbages, Cauliflowers, Brocolie, Radishes, Peas, &c. that are cultivated in England, France and Holland, together with every sort that can be raised to advantage in our own country, and which are grown expressly for my use, from stock furnished and raised by the most experienced gardeners in this country: in short every article emanating from my store, warranted genuine and fresh.

Also, Skinless Oats, Potato Oats, 44lb. weight to the bushel, Perennial Rye Grass, White Clover, Lucerne or French Clover, Orchard Grass, Herds Grass, White Mulberry and Yellow Locust Seeds, Spring Tares or Vetches, genuine Mangel Wurtzel, Ruta Baga and Field Turnep Seeds, well worth the attention of Farmers.

Wholesale dealers supplied on accommodating terms. Price lists, by the pound and bushel, furnished on application, as also catalogues of my whole collection, gratis.

Flower roots, hulb grasses, green house plants, the best books on gardening, &c. at various prices, bird seed of every sort, pearl barley, oatmeal emsden grots for gruel, split peas, white and brown mustard seed, garden flower pots and garden tools, russian bass mats.

The Flower Seed department embraces the choicest variety to be found in this country, in which are included choice double dahlia seed, carnation and choice pinks, German and China asters, splendid double balsams, with an addition of several new varieties, accompanied with a printed direction for culture and management.

Orders will be punctually attended to, and carefully packed and forwarded as directed. But as the collection of distant debts is often troublesome, and somstimes impracticable, it is desired that satisfactory references be made to persons in Albany, when the order is not accompanied with the money.

SEED CORN—The subscriber has a quantity of the celebrated 12 rowed Dutton Corn, raised by J. Buel. The advantages of raising this corn are its prolific qualities, being easily made to yield from 70 to 80 bushels to the acre, and its early maturity, ripening in about 100 days from time of planting.

W. THORBURN,
feb 18 No. 317 N. Market-st. Albany.

KEDIE & HOUGHTON, Importers of English Field and Garden Seeds, beg to apprize the public that they will offer for sale this month the largest importation of the choicest and best varieties of every kind of Garden and Field Seeds ever offered to the public in Western New-York, all of which have been selected from the most eminent growers in the Old Country, (and of the growth of 1836,) which, together with a large assortment of Seeds of American growth, they confidently submit to the public as being unequalled by any ever offered in any part of the United States, and by adhering to a strict determination of offering no other seeds but the vitality of which shall have been tested, they solicit a share of the public patronage.

K. & H. deem it necessary to state, that Mr. Kedie's intimate connection in England with most of the practical and scientific agriculturists, horticulturists and botanists, with whom he has passed all the former part of his life, gives him an advantage in his selection of seeds for the public good, not surpassed by any other establishment in the Union.

No 6 Buffalo-street, west corner store of the Eagle Block.
Catalogues to be had at the store.
The highest price paid in cash for Grass Seed.
Rochester, Feb. 7, 1837. feb 25

Rochester Seed Store—1837.—No. 5 Arcade Hall.

REYNOLDS & BATEHAM having made their arrangements for the season, would inform the public that they are now prepared to execute orders for all kinds of SEEDS, at short notice.

They have just received from one of the most respectable dealers in London, a large supply of English seeds, which were shipped to their order last fall, of the growth of 1836—which, together with their assortment of American growth, renders their present stock the most extensive and complete ever offered in this country. Their experience in the business in this place, and their extensive acquaintance with seed growers and dealers, enables them to obtain the greatest variety of seeds, from the best sources, and on the most favorable terms; as well as to select such as are best adapted to the soil and climate of this country.

Wishing to sustain the reputation of the ROCHESTER SEED STORE, the proprietors are determined to sell only such articles, and at such prices, as will give general satisfaction, and ensure a continuation of the liberal patronage they have hitherto received.

Merchants and others supplied with seeds at wholesale, by weight, or in boxes for retailing, at a liberal discount. Catalogues may be had at the store gratis, or sent by mail if desired. REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.
feb 18

Chinese Mulberries, &c.

THE SUBSCRIBERS HAVE STILL ON HAND THE FOLLOWING:

30,000 Morus multicaulis, the wood of which is fully matured, there having been no premature frosts on Long Island this season. Also, 50,000 cuttings can be supplied.

20,000 Ingrafted Trees, of the new Chinese Mulberry, with large thick leaves, remarkable for the quantity of nutritious matter; this species being sufficiently hardy for the most northern latitudes, and possessing all the advantages of the Morus multicaulis. These are from 3 to 6 feet in height.

30,000 Hybrid Morus multicaulis, with large leaves and close joints, 5 to 6 feet in height.

35,000 Florence Mulberry, with entire leaves, in which point they differ from the common white Mulberry. These are imported direct from the best silk district of France, are from 1 1-2 to 2 1-2 feet in height, and will be sold at very low rates.

60lbs. White Italian Mulberry Seed.

Priced catalogues of Trees, Green House Plants, Dahlias, Garden Seeds, &c. will be sent to every applicant.

WM. PRINCE & SONS.
feb 18 3t Linnæan Garden and Nurseries, Flushing.

Imported Cattle For Sale.

TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION, on Wednesday the 15th March next, at the house of Charles Morgan, town of Lafayette, Onondaga county, at 1 o'clock, P. M. one Bull, two years and four months old; one Cow, five years old, and calf; and one Heifer, three years old, in calf—of the Devonshire Breed. These animals were imported last year, and were selected from some of the best herds in England. Persons desirous of possessing well bred and handsome cattle, will do well to attend to this. Lafayette, Onondaga Co. Feb. 20, 1837.
feb 25 2t JOHN COWLEN.

Morus multicaulis Seed.

THE undersigned offers for sale the seed of the genuine Morus multicaulis, imported direct from France by Smith & Sons, New-York, and warranted to be the growth of 1836. Said seed is put up in half ounce papers, and will be sent per mail, free of charge, to any part of the U. S. on the receipt of $3 for one, or $5 for two papers. Notes of all solvent banks received in payment. This seed is warranted to produce the genuine Chinese variety, and the money in all cases will be refunded on satisfactory proof to the contrary. Short directions furnished to each order, for cultivators.

SETH WHALEN, P. M.
feb 25 5t Whalen's Store, N. Y.

Morus Multicaulis.

JOSEPH DAVENPORT offers for sale 50,000 plants of the true Chinese Mulberry, or Morus multicaulis. Trees will be carefully packed and forwarded as early as desired. Orders must be sent to Colerain, Mass. till the 15th of March; after which time to Hartford, Ct. All inquiries will be attended to at his plantation, 5 miles south-west of the city. Early orders only will be supplied, as arrangements will be made to use all not called for soon.
Colerain, Jan. 23, 1837.

Culture of Fruit Trees.

Peaches.—Peach trees grow and succeed pretty well, on almost any dry soil, but that which they appear to thrive the best in,is a rich sandy loam. Sandy land matures the fruit much earlier than clay, and renders it of better flavor, and the trees live longer on rolling or wavy land than on such as are flat or low; a northern exposure is best, especially if protected from the rays of the sun by lofty woods on the south, whereby the bloom will be retarded, and consequently less exposed to late frosts.

Twenty feet is a good distance to plant the trees apart, and cultivate them as recommended for the apple; be particular to wash the trees as recommended for the apple and other trees, by which means the bark will be kept in a healthy sound state, preventing deep cracks, to which this tree is subject; into which cracks the insect deposits its eggs, as well as near the root. The time has been, that the peach was of very easy culture, but owing to the worm and other diseases, of later years it has become much more difficult, and hence the necessity of more skill, and regular attention; and being one of the most delicious fruits, originally from the Persian empire, they will richly pay for the extra care, at $4 per bushel, the Baltimore price for best sorts and well raised fruit.

To raise a good peach orchard and preserve it from the worm, procure trees one year old from the bud, older trees are more affected by the worm, and are much more checked in their growth, by transplanting, than when removed young. I do not mention this to promote the sale of young trees, but it is my candid opinion, and it is the custom of the Jersey farmers who supply Philadelphia with peaches; and it is best to get trees that have been budded on seedlings, the seed of which had been procured from thrifty trees, which had never been budded, and of course native or hog peaches—and before planting those trees, carefully examine the roots for the worm, which will mostly at this age be small, and may be found a little under the bark, a few inches below where the top of the groud was, and if taken out now the tree is up, the worm may be kept up as follows, supposing the trees to have been planted as directed for the apple:

About the middle of May, take the earth away from the trees about two inches deep, and wrap the trees one inch thick and three feet up the bodies with rye straw,placing the lower ends in said trench, and haul up the dirt on the lower end of the straw, which will keep the miller from laying its eggs on the tender bark of the tree during the time of its flight; after the first of October, the straw ought to be removed to harden the wood before winter, and place around each tree about one shovel-full of ashes; this should be done every fall, and increase them in proportion to the rise of the trees, and repeat the bandages of straw annually, as above, until the bark of the trees become old and so hard as to render it impervious to the worm. In order to obtain large fair fruit, they require judicious trimming—the first season after planting, as soon as the buds have fairly broke or pushed out, head the trees down to about three to four feet high, taking care to do it above the bud; and after the branches have shot out, select three of the best of them near the top, and rub all the rest off—these three will mostly make strong shoots the first season, and the next season shorten these branches about one-fourth of their length, and rub off all the buds but three on each near the end, as in the first case; this will give the tree nine branches, which will mostly give a handsome head to each tree, and annually thereafter cut out about two-thirds of the fruit bearing species, leaving the strongest and best about equally disributed, and the leading shoots must be occasionally shortened as they become slender or weak, which strengthens the bearing wood, and the thinning out the spurs will lessen the necessity of thinning the fruit in some measure. Yet to have first rate fruit they ought to be thinned to four inches, leaving only one peach in that space, which ought to be done before the fruit is as large as the seed or stone of it; in this way we can have the same weight of fruit as if all was left on, and of course very large, and proportionably juicy and luscious.

Cherry Trees grow best on a rich well cultivated loam, on an open clay subsoil, low, alluvial, sandy or wet land, is unfavorable.

The assortment of this fruit are much improved within a few years in this country; by another season I shall have some very superior new sorts—having seen the fruit of some of them, enables me to speak with confidence.

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Plums.—Plum trees, from their naked, and while young, tender skin, is frequently much injured by a small bug called the Curculio, which perforates the skin of the fruit soon after its formation, and deposits its egg, and that, in due time hatching, its product feeds upon the tender pulp, and at length occasions a very large proportion of the fruit to fall from the tree before it arrives at maturity; it is a fact well established, that the fruit does not suffer so much in this way, where the ground is constantly trodden, as in yards, walks, and lanes, or where the ground is paved as in town yards; in such situations large crops of fair and large fruit are produced. Nectarines and Apricots are in a degree subject to the same disaster, and require the same care as the plum. The trees ought to be planted in situations where the falling unripe fruit would be eaten by Poultry, or Swine, or be otherwise destroyed. As this fruit contains the insect which will,by undergoing certain changes, be ready to destroy the fruit of the succeeding year, I would recommend in Cities, to plant in pavements, and in Country places, in hog pens; but sufficient room must be allowed in the pens, so that the manure would not accumulate in large quantities around the trees, so as to destroy them; a moderate share of it, however, would be of service; for the plum requires rich ground.

And as the Curculio is an inactive and clumsy insect, only capable of flying a short distance at a time; crawls but slowly up the tree, by its nature is timid, lets go its hold on the slighest disturbance and falls to the ground, its native hiding place, the probability is, that they would be so often disturbed by the hogs rubbing against the trees, thus situated. as to be deterred from their attempts to ascend. It is known to be the habit of hogs to delight in rubbing themselves against posts, stakes, or any other bodies in their enclosures, and hence, in that habit would the plum trees there located find a security from its greatest and most fatal enemy. Indeed their security would be manifold; for besides exciting their fears, and thus restraining them in their endeavors to get up into the tree, all that fell to the earth would be devoured by the hogs on the instant, as well as all the fruit which might fall from the effect of the injury received by being impregnated with the egg of the Curculio. In addition to this, the hogs would so trample the earth around the trees that the insect could not bury itself, and would be cut off from the opportunity of undergoing those changes essential to the production of a new progeny to perpetrate similar evils the next spring. My confidence in the advantages arising from the shaking of the plum tree was lately confirmed by a successful experiment I saw an account of, where the plum tree stood so near the pump that a line tied to it, and to the pump handle which would shake the tree as often as water was pumped up, which completely preserved the fruit from the effects of the Curculio.

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Grapes.—If people who have property of their own, were sufficiently acquainted with the delicious qualities of the grape for dessert, and to hand to their friends as a choice variety they would seldom be without at least one dozen vines in their yard; being of easy culture, they soon arrive at a bearing state, and are very productive, but we are thrown back in the culture of this delicious fruit half a century by making experiments with European vines, many of which have been kept there in hot houses, and consequently, do not suit the open ground, where they are either killed by the frost, or so effected by insects, as to rather discourage the proprietors in their culture. Instead of them, I would after 12 years experience, recommend to my friends the best kind of native grape found here. Major John Adlum, the father of the vine culture in this country, observes, that it is his opinion, that the Catawba grape is worth all the other grapes yet proved in the United States; the next best is the Isabella and Bland grapes. Dr. Norton's seedling and Hebermont's Madeira, are, no doubt, very valuable grapes from their general character; these I have not proved sufficiently, but will soon, if I live, having them, as well as many other good sorts now on trial. I once planted a Bland grape, a rooted plant of one or two years growth, and on the third year the produce was estimated at one peck of fruit; the fourth year, two to three bushels. The vine is now very large and productive, having been planted 16 years. When in fruit, it would be well worth calling to see; it is situate on the north side of Pratt-street, between Howard and Sharp, where I formerly lived, and where the very respectable proprietor would take pleasure to show it.

Manner of Planting, &c.—Before planting, prepare the ground where they are to stand by fine tilth, for 18 inches or more deep, and five feet square, and made rich with old compost and ashes, or either. The ground thus prepared, procure one or two year old rooted plants, that have been carefully taken up with the most of their roots—then open the ground which has been prepared for them, about seven inches deep, wide enough to lay the roots out at their full length, and distribute them regularly around, and fill in the finest mould, and press it on the roots gently—then level up the hole. The next spring, cut down the vine to the two lowest strong buds; when these begin to shoot, select the best and strongest one and rub the other off, and train this season's shoot to a stake, occasionally rubbing off the lateral branches as they shoot. The second season permit two branches to grow in place of one, and the third season permit four branches to grow, always cutting down as low as can be, to get good buds, to furnish the number of shoots wanted; instead of one stake, now have trails of strips to which these four branches may be tied in the form of a fan—the next spring select two of the strongest branches, and leave five or six buds of the last season's wood to produce fruit—the other two branches must be cut down to two buds, the best one only permitted to grow to produce bearing wood for the next year's crop—but, in order to make the fruit-bearing branches break their buds well at each eye, the end must be brought around in form of a hoop and fastened near the ground, to remain there only until all the buds have fairly shot; then fasten them to the trellis, and every season thereafter, cut one half of the branches of the preceding year, down to one strong bud, for the purpose of producing strong wood for next year's crop, and shorten the other branches to from three to nine eyes, according to the strength of the branch, taking care to tie the branches to the trellis as they grow, and to pinch off the lateral branches, and tendrils also, as soon as the fruit are as large as a huckleberry, and shorten the branch at the third joint from the fruit—cultivate them shallow and regular, so as to prevent weeds or grass from growing, and every fall dig in a coat of manure around them, and you will have great crops and delicious fruit, provided they are permitted to remain on the vines *until fully ripe*.

[Balt. Far.] Robert Sinclair.

[From the Baltimore Farmer.]

We have conversed with several farmers who are extensive grain growers, and have received letters from many others, and from all we can learn, draw the conclusion, that serious apprehensions are entertained for the safety of the ensuing crops of wheat and rye. That the severe frosts of the latter part of November and December did do much injury, we doubt not, but still *hope* that "He who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb" will reward the labor of the husbandman by a fruitful coming harvest.

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As the season is fast approaching when clover and other grass seeds will be sown, we deem it advisable to bespeak for their future pastures and meadows, from our agricultural brethren, a liberal bestowal of seed. He who sows *scantily* must expect to reap in a proportionate degree, or to gather more weeds than hay. In every soil there are ample supplies of the seed of every variety of wild and noxious herbage, and if these are not supplanted by a wholesome covering of artificial grasses, they will inevitably germinate, and show their pestilent fronts to the annoyance of proprietors, and the discomfort of their stock: for the earth will be busy in despite of all the maltreatment it rsceives at human hands.